

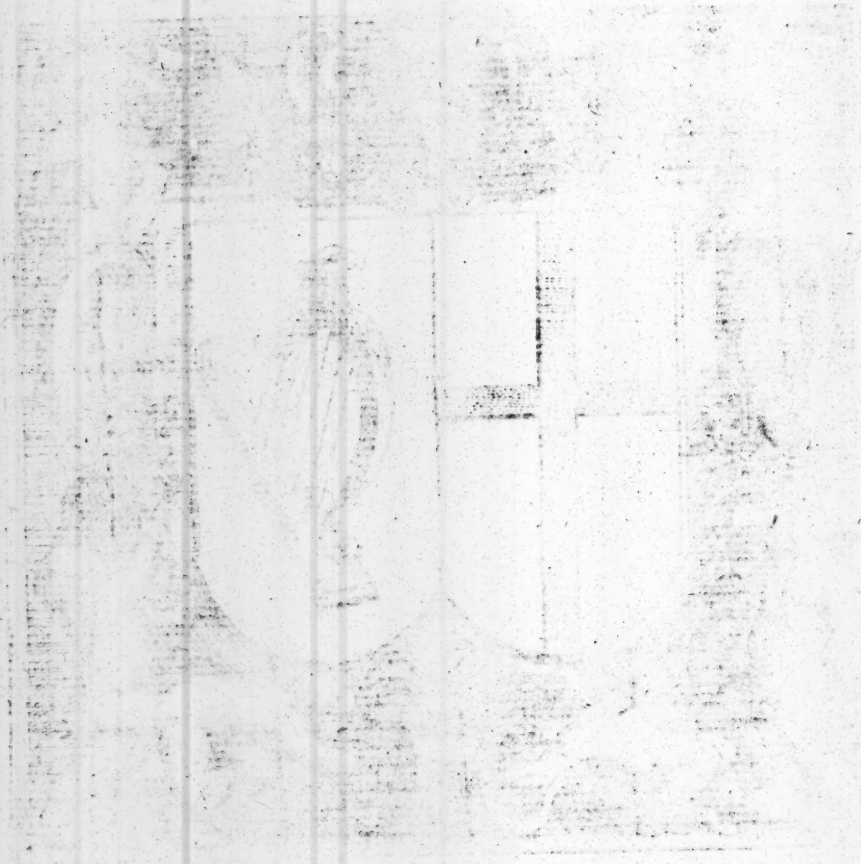
THE
ADVOCATE.



LONDON,
Printed by *William Du-Gard*, Printer to the Council
of STATE. 1651.

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TO THE
RIGHT HONORABLE
THE
Council of State.

Right Honorable!



I am often in very great doubt (if I may so speak), That the Goodness & Wisdom of God, & his Thoughts of these, are very rarely met with, in the Paths, which the scantling of Man's Reason and Judgment walk in; And as I dare not but own the Belief of the Coming of his Appearance, and the breaking forth, very shortly, of his Glorie: So I believ likewise, this will bee a sight very strange, and very unexpected to men; and not onely greatly above, but in som measure even contrarie (and perhaps, very unwelcom) unto the most enlarged and raised thoughts wee have yet prepared our selvs with, to Receiv it.

The sign of which Coming, will bee the Detection, by little and little, of all Imposture, and the laying of all things low, naked, and mean before him; the stripping men of that Honor, Credit, and Repute, that they had by several means been gaining with themselves, and (by themselves) with others, either through

a Not-knowledg, or through an artificial concealing of themselves.

In these very things lying, and within these indeed, beeing spent and consumed, the whole Indeavors, Practice, Studie and Wisdom (if not Religion) of All, States, Nations and Men, viz.

Either in devising shifts (by acquisition of such and such Habits, or otherwise) not to appear uncomly to themselves, but to beget rather an esteem and satisfaction of themselves;
Or, in Concealing and keeping close (by several Glosses) the Imperfections and uncomlinesses, (known to themselves) from the sight and apprehensions of others.

The most exquisite humane Wit exceeding the more inferior onely in this, That the former is able to finde out more Tight and exquisite Textures for it self then the other; And the most Fortunate man in this world, having the Advantage of the more Unfortunate, but after the same manner also, viz. That the Covering of this falls off a little sooner, and the other wrap's himself up in it a while longer.

And thus all Lusts, (as well those of Acquisition) in the minde (as others to exterior things) both in their first Issuings forth, and also in the Accomplishments of them, are still but to give countenance unto, and keep up a Repute and Esteem in us. The Assumption (on the other side) of Repute and Esteem to our selves, is the very ground and original of all Lusts (These two, observing tune, and keeping time each to the measures and motions of the other) and within this Circle is concluded whole Humane Nature, with all the Parts, and the most perfect Actious of it.

Upon these Thoughts (Right Honorable!) I finding none not very ready to have ascribed to himself the name of beeing (in som measure) wise, finde none that can endure the Manifestation (in any kinde) of their Follie; or that can bee willing to have this their Wisdom and Glorie to bee flatly and plainly called
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led Pageantrie, Mumming, or a playing at Bo-peep with themselves and others; and yet (it really beeing no honest) if wee cannot bear the Judgments thus one of another, how shall wee abide the Trial, or bee able to stand before the Judgment of God, which seeth us, (and will shortly search us) with more pure and uncorrupt Eies ? And how miserably then are the Imaginations of men muffled up in their own dressings ? when the Truth is our Beeings, at their best (natural, or acquir'd) Appearances, are yet such feigned substences, and Propp'd up with such fundamental mistakes of themselves, that they would moulder and shatter themselves to pieces, should they bee taken quite asunder from the disguises and patchings they have put upon themselves, bare-facedly and undeceivedly to see themselves but one half hour.

Beeing convinced, by these thoughts, therefore (Right Honorable!) of the low Condition wee are herein, I not knowing what the Councils of God intend to bring forth for the settlement of this Nation; Nor how hee hath resolved in his Wisdom to dispose of it, as to its outward Condition, whether Hee intends wee shall bee oppressed by other Nations about us, that hee may the more manifest his Power and Protection over us: Or that wee shall bee advanced in prosperitie above others, that so hee may perhaps shew us our vanitie (the Casting of the Scale either way in appearance much depending upon the present Councils) I say, not knowing This, I can as little Judg what means Providence will pleas to use in order to the bringing to pass these his purposes, whether hee will chuse This, or reject That.

But in this Case, remembring the advice of Solomon, and ^{Eccles. 11.} knowing nothing (for I can affirm it but as to mine own under-^{5,6.}standing) that hath presented it self of more Import to bee looked after, or to bee very heedfully taken into Consideration, then Matters of Trade (if wee shall either regard the Safetie, Unanimitie or Defence of this Nation) Nor any other waie possible but This, to preserv and maintein this Countrie: calling also to minde, how many times I have heard it urged, That there

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is no other means to quiet or keep up the spirits of the poorer sort of people: No other to give them Imploiment, or to finde a vent and Incouragement for their Labors (when they have wrought) and consequently no other to provide against the wants and distempers of them, and of the Generalitie, but solely by Trade, and by a due Order and Regulation of it. All these things making up a strong Affection in mee, I judged it my dutie (Right Honorable!), and what necessarily became the faithfulness I ow to the Common-wealth's service, to indevor the representing of this Truth (for your Honor's fuller Information) with the clearest Grounds and demonstration I could, which beeing a thing that did much depend upon Experience, I knew not how to bring this more home, then by propounding a President; and such an one as is stil in sight, which may at once witnesse, The Advantage of Trade, By themselvs, and the benefit they found by it; The Disadvantage of neglecting it, By what they brought upon us; And the clear waie of Governing it, By the Courses they Actually took, and have practised to effect both these.

All which Conceptions, nevertheless, are with all humbleness Submitted By

Your Honor's servant

Φιλόπατρις.



THE ADVOCATE:

OR,

A NARRATIVE

Of the state and condition of things between the *English* and *Dutch* Nation, in relation to TRADE, and the consequences depending thereupon, to either Commonwealth; as it was presented in *August* 1651.



It hath been a thing for many years generally received, That the Design of *Spain* (and which, to this daie, hee still in his Councils carrie's on) is, to get the Uniyersal Monarchie of Christendom. Nor is it a thing less true (how little soever observed) that our Neighbors [*the Dutch*] (after they had settled their Libertie, and been a while encouraged by Prosperitie) have, likewise, for som years, aimed to laie a foundation to themselves for ingrossing the Uniyersal Trade, not onely of Christendom, but indeed, of the greater part of the known world; that so they might poiz the Affairs of any other State about them, and

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make their own Considerable, if not by the Largeness of their Countrey; yet, however, by the Greatness of their Wealth; and by their potencie at Sea, in strength and multitude of Shipping.

For the clear and certain carrying on of which, there beeing none (that was) like to bee so great a Bar to them, in this their Aim, as the *English* Nation; nor any that laie so conveniently to keep up a Proportion of Trade with them. It concerned them, therefore, by all means and waies possible to discourage and beat out the *English* in all places of Trade, as far (at least) as was discreet for them, without too much Alaruming them; or having too early or hastie a Breach with them.

Their particular Practices to which purpose in the *East-Indies*, at *Guiny*, *Greenland*, *Russia*, with the severall unfair Carriages (of som among them) to us, in those places; and even in our own Seas, is not intended to bee here mentioned: It sufficeth, that these following Advantages they had clearly gotten above us:

1. In the great Trade they did drive to *East-land*, and to the *Baltick* Sea; for Mafts, Timber, Hemp, Pitch, Tar, Copper, Iron, Salt-peter, all sorts of Grain, Pot-ashes, &c. the like most necessarie Commodities.
2. In their Herring-fishing; imploying yearly upon the Coast of this Land onely, above 2000 Sail of Shipping
3. In the preserving and advancing their Manufactures; their Cloathing Trade of late arising and increasing (as it is judged) to above 60000 Cloths yearly.
4. In their *East-India* Trade; and by it, Monopolizing three sorts of Spices almost to the whole world; as, Cloves, Nuts, and Mace, and lately much Cinnamon.

*The means whereby they have pursued and upheld
these Advantages, were*

By the great number of Shipping they have constantly built ; and by the manner of managing their Trade and Shipping, in a conformitie and direction to their Grand End:

For,

1. Few Merchant's Ships among the *Hollanders* were Ships of much Defence, unless these going to *India*; and so they were neither at so great a Charge of Guns in building them; nor did carrie a proportion of men, or victual (in setting them out) near, or answerable to *English* Shipping of the same Burthen.
2. Several Trades they did drive in Fleets, with great Flutes, or Vessels, having never a Gun at all in them, nor more men then would possibly sail them, as most of their *East-land* Trade, their Herring-Buss Trade, and their Salt Trade, which were driven after this manner.
3. Those their Fleets were, and have been alwaies carefully and constantly attended with a Convoy at the Publick Charge; and which was alway ready beforehand, and had their directions given them not from the State, but from the several Admiralties; whereby they were held to their dutie, and strictly tied up to that service.
4. Much of the Trade which they did drive to the Southward (not in Fleets, nor with Convoy, but in single Shipping) they would often ensue in *England*; so that when loss came, it was wee sometimes that bare it, and our stock that was lessened and diminished by it.

By all which means,

1. They did engross the whole Trade of all Bulkie Commodities (to themselves singly), as Timber, Clap-board, Mafts, Grain, Salt, &c.
2. And were, in som Commodities, able to go as cheap again for Freight, as wee : in som, half as cheap ; and near in all, a full third penie cheaper then wee.

VVhich Cheapness of Freight produced again other great Advantages to themselves ; For

1. In som Commodities it was above 20 in the Hundred gain ; in som 15 ; in others 10 ; and near 4 or 5 per Cent. in most ; (which was a years Interest with them) And by which,
2. They were sure to get the preference of the Market of us in other Countries, and if occasion were, to under-sell us also as much per Cent. in all places, and upon all Trades ; yea, somtimes in our own Commodities : And this together with an easie pretence of the unsafetie of our *English* shipping through our late Troubles.
3. Compelled our Nation (that wee might maintein a Stock going with them) to hire and freight the *Holland* shipping, without which, indeed, wee could not well have held up a Trade here with them, either out or home : And this beeing once begun by som, was immediately (by reason of the Advantage of it) followed by as many others as could : VVhich (though a good and beneficial expedient for the particular Merchant) begat notwithstanding several very great mischiefs to this Nation in general :

For,

1. By this wee encouraged the building more and more of

of our Neighbors Shipping, and discouraged our own; which hereupon were laid up by the walls in great numbers.

2. VVee encreased (by this) their great Trade for the *Baltick* Sea, and *East-land*, and gave them still the greater opportunitie to make themselvs the Mart and Masters over us, of all Commodities belonging to the building or furnishing of Shipping, whereby their Trade still came home in a Circle; they (like wise men) laying such a Course, as one part of it strengthened another.
3. VVee dis-obliged and discontented our own people and sea-men, and insensibly weakned the strength and defence of this Nation: For by this course, wee must at length have been reduced to have hired their Mariners, when wee come to set out our Men of VVar: nor was it possible (had it held) to have prevented it.
4. They, by this means, carried away much unnecessarie Treasure out of this Nation, taken for freights; and so insensibly impoverished also this Countrie; our monie occasioning a Luxe to their people, while our own Seamen starved at home for meer want, and through lack of imploiment.
5. As the Cheapness of their Freight enabled them to under-sell us abroad, in many Commodities carried to Foreign Markets by them, and by us, to sell: So it enabled them equally to over-bid us abroad for the Foreign Commodities, which they and wee bought, and to raise the price of them upon us, which while they had libertie to bring in hither, they either prevented our Merchant of the first of the Market, and then made us paie Sauce for them: or, if not, they carried them into their Countrie: on here watched the opportunitie of another seasonable vent of them. And thus they served us, as for all our *Norway*, *East-land*, and *Russia* Commodities; so also lately in our VVines, Fruits, Oils, Currans,

rans, &c. which were the Commodities of *Spain, Canaries*, and the *Straights* : By both these means (*viz.* by discouraging and beating us down abroad in the selling of some Commodities ; and by raising and enhancing us abroad in the price, or buying up of others) concluding with themselves, to wearie us out at length from all Trade, and to have the sole buying and selling of all Commodities for us.

For this method and manner of managing their affairs, daily adding to *Their* stock, and answerably diminishing the Stock and Treasure of *this Nation* : and by laying it so, as it *run* thus in a Circle, each part of it (as wee said) strengthening another part : it would unavoidably have tended to a greater and greater disenabling us to hold anie Trade with them: and to have made themselves, for Wealth and Shipping, the Masters over us: Of sufficient testimonie of which (over and above what wee have said also) wee might further see in the actual progress that they had gained upon us in our Shipping.

For,

1. In our Trade of *East-land*, whereas wee did use formerly to send thither 200 Sail of Shipping in a year, wee now did not send 16 Sail : The *Hollanders* in the mean time employing not less then 600 Sail thither ; and whereby (had not a good Providence crossed or hindered a strict Alliance and Conjunction between some of those Eastern States and them) wee must soon have given them their Price, and been at their disposing for all Commodities belonging to Shipping : and then it had been too great an hazard for us (by anie Law made here) to have recovered our Trade from them.
2. In our Plantations they had three, if not four Sail of Ships, for our one : whereasthey never suffered us so much

much as to Trade at all in any place or Plantation settled by them.

3. In *India* they have 20 Sail and above for our one.
4. At *Spain, Canaries, Zant*, with several other places in the *Straights*, where they formerly rarely laded hither one ship of Goods; they now lately laded hither more then wee.

And thus, in the waie and manner of the managing the Trade in their shipping, laie much of their vigilancie to gain their advantage and design upon us.

A *second* Courf (therefore) whereby they do and have upheld their Advantages above us, is, The greatness of the Stock they imploie, which (as wee now intimated) was more and more increased by the wisdom of this their Method in Shipping: And which, on the other side, as it did encreas and grow great, did enable them the more to give the Laws of Trade to us, both in the Government of the Exchange, and of the Markets abroad for Forreign Commodities.

A *third* Courf for the gaining and upholding their Advantages of us, was, The singular and prudent care they took in preserving the Credit of most of those Commodities which are their own proper Manufactures; By which they keep up the Repute and Sale of them abroad; taking hereby a very great advantage of the contrarie Neglect in us; and by this means, likewise, very much damnifying and spoiling us.

Which that wee may clearly see of what Import this one thing alone is to us, wee shall here set down certain general Canons or Rules belonging to Manufactures.

1. That although Divine Providence, in the greatness of his Wisdom, hath placed natural Commodities, som here, som there; yet no Manufacture or artificial Commodity, but may possibly bee had or transplanted into anie Countrie.

2. That

2. That all Manufactures (especially such as are of Necessitie) if they are of a certain goodness, They are (like Coin) of a certain value and price also ; and so on the contrarie.
3. That two persons selling or making Commodities of a like goodness, hee shall have the preference of the Market, that will sell them the cheapest: And so two Nations likewise.
4. That the Cheapness of Manufactures, and artificial Commodities, doth altogether depend upon the plentie and cheapness of the matter, and upon the like cheapness of price, for Handie-labor.

And these (though few) beeing unalterable Laws in all Manufactures, it cannot but bee acknowledged, that it is through our want of the like Care, as our Neighbors, and onely through that, that the *Hollander* hath anie kinde of Woollen Manufacture :

For,

1. The matter of no Woollen Manufacture groweth in his Countrie at all ; but hee is forced to fetch it from other places ; whereas wee have it here, within this Nation, plentie.
2. The price of labor depending much upon the price of victuals, hous-rent, and other things necessarie, It is certain (especially to anie that know both Countries) that all this is much cheaper with us, then with our Neighbors, and are like so to bee.
3. Our Nation, as they were heretofore the onely workmen of these Commodities ; so none can excel them for Art, Skill, or Goodness, were but encouragement given them, and an Order, Regulation, and Government of the Manufactures settled among them : And therefore

It is not our Neighbor's singular Industrie above us, as
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it is the Carelesnes of this Nation, in keeping our Manufactures to their due contents, weight, and goodness. Their Neglect in settling a Regulation, Government, and Super-
 spection over them, and in Inflicting due and just punishments for the fall-making of them. That is (humbly conceived to bee much) the Cause of the so great thriving of our Neighbor's Cloathing, and of the so great Ruine and Decaie (on the contrarie) of our own Woollen Manufactures, and of the people depending upon them.

A fourth Cause taken by our Neighbors, Is, The Improvements of Trade that they have made by their Treaties or Articles of Confederations with other Princes; and by making this their Care and Protection of Trade abroad in all places their Interest of State. Thus taking hold of the Juncture of Circumstances, and making use of the Necessitie of the King of Denmark, they have farmed the Sound of him: Thus also at the Treatie of Munster have they reserved a power of shutting us out of the Scheld, and have carefully in that Peace concluded on several other Articles and Provisions in order to the securing and promoting of their Traffick, And thus—&c.

A fifth Cause (and not the least means for the upholding and encreasing their Trade) Is, The smalness of their Custom, or Port-duties; also their prudent laying on and taking off Impositions, for the furtherance of their own Manufactures, and for the Incouragement of bringing in som, and Discouragement of bringing in other Commodities; and of which they have given us two ill Instances, The one in laying on a great Tax upon our English Cloths and Manufactures; The other in forbidding our Cloths wholly to bee imported, if drest or died in the Cloth; of both which wee have had som cause to complain long, as beeing plainly an Inhibition of Commerce, and if not strictly against the Laws of Nations; yet

at least against the Courf of Amitie, Alliance, and Friend-
ship.

A *sixth* Courf hath been, The Constant Reward and Incouragement given to persons bringing in Inventions; making of new Discoveries, and propounding things profitable for publick and common Interest: which (how little a thing soëver it may seem to som, yet it) hath ever been, and is constantly, a very great spur to Industrie.

And these are humbly asserted to bee the principal Causes of their so much greatness and flourishing in Trade above us.

Other Causes that have been less principal and accessarie to these, are,

1. The Easiness or Lowness of Interest in that Countrie.
2. The great facilitating of their Trade by a Bank.
3. And last of all (the onely thing proper to them) the dearness and scarcitie of Land: and the dividing their Estates equally to their Children: whereby Trade is (as it were) continued in a Line without Interruption; the contrarie beeing customarie with us,

Animadversion.

All which Discours beeing onely an Evidence given in from matter of known fact; It will (as is humbly conceived) manifest it self.

I.

That our Neighbors have no such extraordinarie advantage in matter of Trade, either through their Countrie, its Situation, or otherwise, as is proper or peculiar to them onely, beyond all other Nations, as hath been long the opinion

nion of som, but it is the manner of their Care, and of the Government that is among them, and the meer vigilancie of the Method observed by them :

For,

If the Nature of those Courses, which they have taken and pursued for the Incouragement of Trade, bee looked into and considered (as they are obvious to any other that will pleas to heed them) it cannot bee imagined but they shall make any people great, rich and flourishing in Trade; and therefore that they will do the like in anie other place as well as in *Holland*, if put in execution, especially, if it bee a place seated for Trade, and the people of the Countrie apt for it.

II.

It is presumed, That our Neighbors would not think it Just, if wee should condemn them, meerly for the taking these good Courses for themselves; or becaus they have given all Incouragements that were requisite to their Trade in their own Countrie : Much less then would they expect, that wee should actually impute these things as Crimes to them, or ground hence anie occasion to Estrange our selvs, or make a Breach with them : Nor will they therefore (as it is hoped) take it more ill from us ; if wee (having now likewise recovered our Liberties) see the Necessitie of providing for the Defence of this Common-Wealth by Shipping (as beeing *Islanders*); or if wee take up som of the like Courses as They, for the Incouragement of Trade among us : As without which, indeed, Shipping can neither bee had, or mainteined; which now also to neglect, were a very great Carelesness, and would, indeed, bee an Argument rather of our beeing to bee Blamed, then otherwise; having been so well taught, even by their own Example and Practice, That

1. It is by Trade, and the due ordering and governing of it, and by no other means, that Wealth and Shipping can either bee encreased, or upheld; and consequently by by no other, that the power of any Nation can bee sustained by Land, or by Sea: It beeing not possible (as is humblie thought) according to the Courf of humane affairs, for anie Nation (having no Mines to supplie it self) to make it self powerful in either of these (that is, either Monie, or Shipping) without Trade, or a thorow Inspection into Trade, and the Courf of it.

2. That it is by a Knowledg of Trade and Commerce, and the Courf of it, that one Nation or State know's perfectly how to straighten and pinch another, and to compel a Compliance from them, which may bee, Either

By debarring or deriving the Courf of som necessarie Commodities from them; as for War, for Shipping, for Food, &c. Or

By obstructing the Sale or Vent of the Native Commodities belonging to them: Or

By weakening their Shipping, and dreyning them by degrees of their Treasure and Coin.

By any of which Courses, if not spied, or (when spied, if) not able to bee prevented, a People or Nation must at length bee straightned and subjected: and every one of which Inconveniencies wee were very manifestly liable unto (as appear's by the foregoing Narrative) through the Advantages our Neighbors had over us, and through the Wisdom of those Courses they had laid in their Trade with us: wee beeing so near pinched, that it had been very hard, fairly to have wrested our selvs out of the Nets of our Neighbors, had *Sweden* been as much shut to us, as *Denmark*; and that the King of *Poland* likewise could have exercised his Arbitrarie Power on us at *Dantzick*:
And

And had not (at length) that Court about our Shipping and Navigation been so happily and timely established by the Parliament : which, as the Necessitie of it could not suddenly bee so well judged of by those that had not considered or been acquainted with the substance of the foregoing Relation : So certainly, beeing laid upon so equal and Necessarie Grounds, if continued to bee exercised, It will bee a means, in som measure, to recover us.

For besides what wee said of the Constraint, that for the foregoing causes, laie upon us, It must even, from the Primitive grounds of Reason, bee acknowledged, That a Common-Wealth cannot bee enriched, nor the People thereof provided for, by any other means, then by reducing those very Courses into general Practice, which are used by Private men; And Therefore as Private men, that buie and sell to suite the Conveniencies of others, as well as themselvs, do Constantly observ these, or the like Rules :

1. To buie at the first or best hand, or there, where they may have the Commoditie cheapest.

Answerable to which, Is,

To fetch Commodities at the Immediate places of their Production, or Growth.

2. To carrie Commodities to places where they are most needed.

Answerable to which, Is,

To send all Native Commodities to their farthest, or utmost Market, where they yield greatest price.

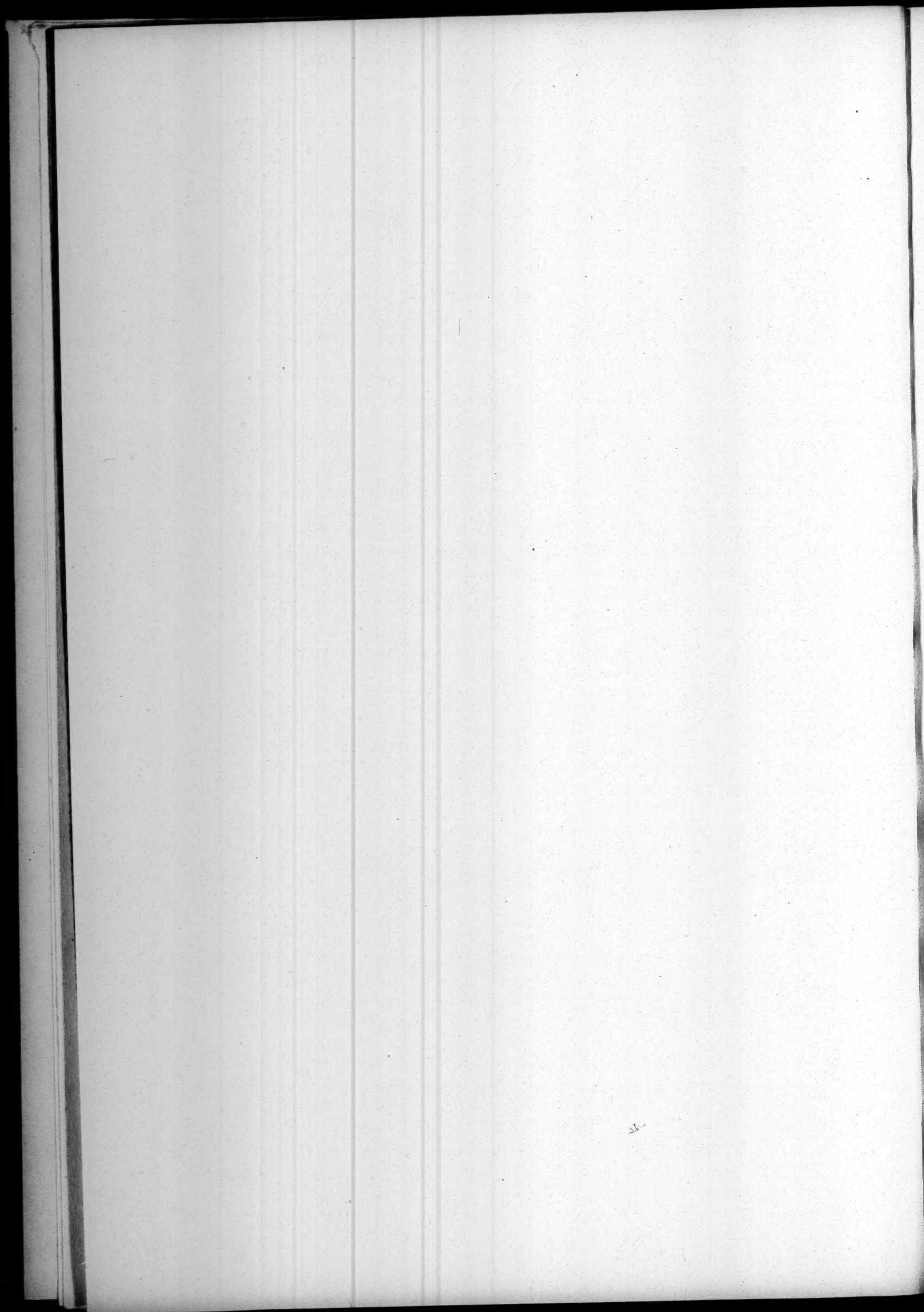
So these Canons and Rules must bee as inviolably observed also by any Nation who will pretend an Interest,

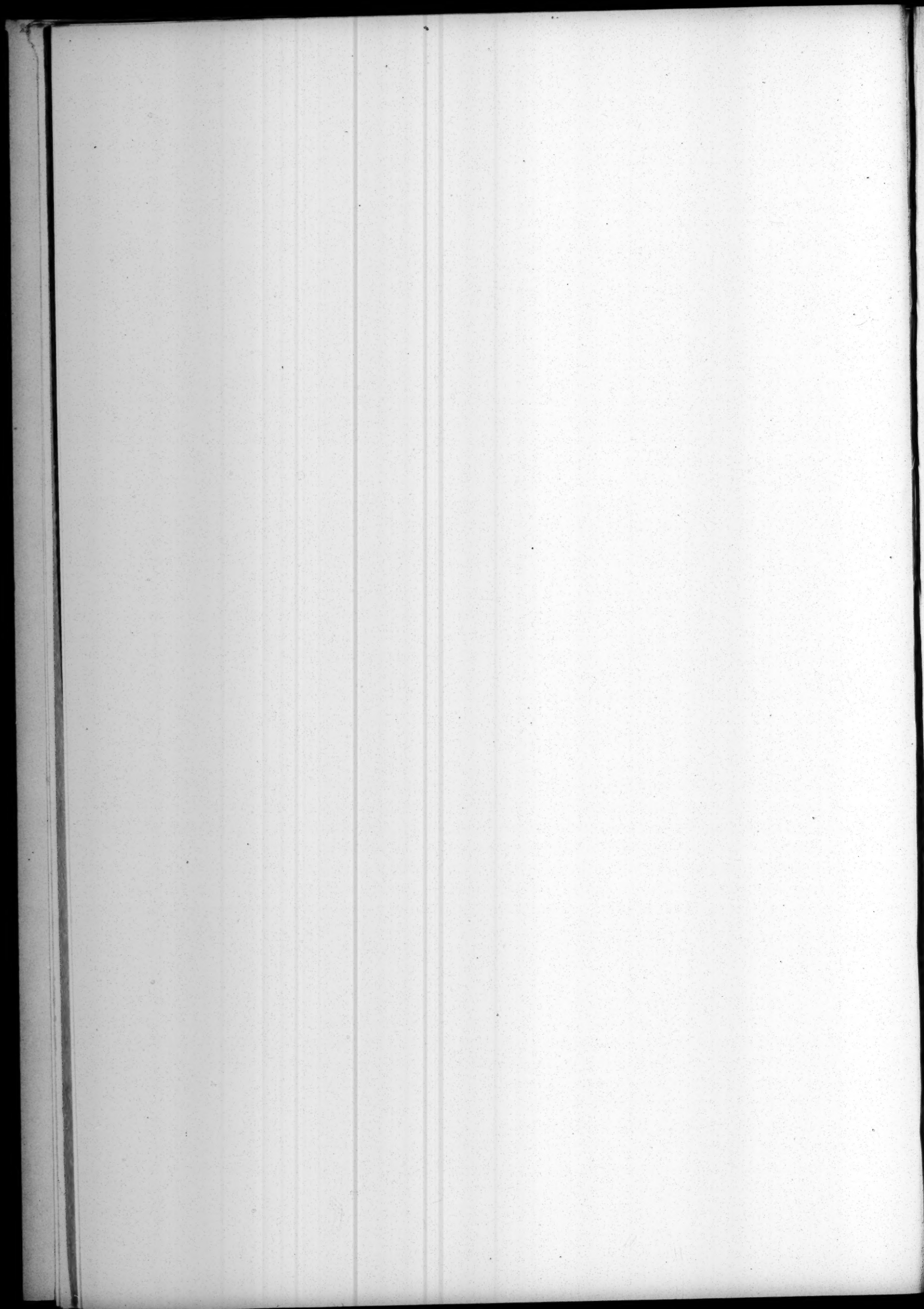
hope, or benefit from Trade: otherwise they may justly be reprov'd of less Care and Knowledg, then common or ordinarie Shop-keepers. Which Rules, notwithstanding, are not to be pursu'd, nor can be imitated, without giving all the possible Indulgence and Incouragement, that may be, to Shipping.

And this whole state of things, and these reasons that have been produced, beeing all of them duly and equally considered, It is hoped, little will remain of Dis-satisfaction (or Objection upon us) about the PARLAMENT'S late Act for the Incouragement and Inceas of our Navigation; Which was, indeed, the Thing principally propounded to be here Argued, and the Censure of which is therefore freely Submitted.

FINIS.







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